**MISSOURI TRUCKING ASSOCIATION**

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**NEWS RELEASE**

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For Immediate Release

**MISSOURI TRUCKING**

**ASSOCIATION ANNUAL SAFETY AWARDS**

**Lake Ozark, MO --**The 2020 Missouri Trucking Association (MoTA) Annual Safety Conference and Awards Banquet was attended by over 100 Safety Professionals and included 15 speakers. The two-day event was sponsored by the MoTA Council of Safety Supervisors at Camden on the Lake, Lake Ozark, Missouri, February 27th through February 28th.

The 73rd annual Safety Awards Banquet honoring the trucking industry’s finest safety and driving professionals with over 185 company officials in attendance highlighted the Safety Conference.

For thirty-nine of the last forty years, the **Missouri Trucking Association** has received the coveted Summa Cum Laude Award from American Trucking Associations’ State Association Recognition Program for effectively fostering and promoting highway safety programs within Missouri for the greater good of the trucking industry and all highway users. The Council Chairman Plaque was presented to Mike Bohon -Great West Casualty Company for his outstanding leadership of the Council of Safety Supervisors.

Safety Council Service Award pins were given to recognize dedicated safety professionals devoting time to attend council meetings and participate in safety events sponsored by the council. This year a 1-year pin was awarded to **Andy Bradford – Tri-State Motor Transit Co.**

This year 10 drivers earned 5-year pins as members of the Chairman’s Safe Driving Club; 2 drivers with **Buchheit Logistics**, 1 with **D & D Sexton**, 2 with **Orscheln Farm** and Home and 4 with **TransLand.** There was one driver from **Buchheit Logistics** that earned a 10-year pin. These drivers have demonstrated hard work, striving to keep our highways safe by operating accident free with no citations both on duty and on personal time. They join 330 drivers representing 15 companies accepted into this illustrious group.

Four major safety fields were recognized -- the Safest Fleet Contest; the Missouri

Professional Drivers of the Month; 2019 Professional Driver of the Year; the Safety Director of the Year -- shared the spotlight at the banquet.

The 2019 Missouri Driver of the Year is **Scott Hurrell**, a driver for **D &D Sexton.** Mr. Hurrell has been a professional driver for 25 years and has amassed nearly 2.5 Million Miles.

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Steff Mosby with the Missouri Department of Transportation presented Mr. Hurrell with a custom designed keepsake ring and framed certificate from the Missouri Trucking Association for his excellence in highway safety and maintenance operations.

The professional drivers recognized for outstanding performance, each were presented with a commemorative engraved Winchester Knife from the Missouri Trucking Association. Introducing each of the professional drivers was Jeff Buchheit, with Buchheit Logistics and Chairman of the MoTA Board of Directors.

The Professional Drivers of the Month, their company, *hometown* and lifetime miles are listed

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| below: |  |  |  |
| January | **Bruce Brewen** | **Hogan Transports Valles Mines, MO** | **4.2 Million Miles** |
| February | **Dewey Mullens** | **Buchheit Logistics Raleigh, IL** | **4.8 Million Miles** |
| March | **Harold Mayor** | **D & D Sexton Joplin, MO** | **7 Million Miles** |
| April | **Clif Hoeft** | **D & D Sexton Joplin, MO** | **4 Million Miles** |
| May | **Neal Bethards** | **Orscheln Farm & Home Eldon, MO** | **2.2 Million Miles** |
| June | **Lance Wood** | **Walmart Transportation Cuba, MO** | **2.5 Million Miles** |
| July | **Nora Black** | **Orscheln Farm & Home Rush Hill, MO** | **3.2 Million Miles** |
| August | **Henry Grider** | **TransLand Mt. Vernon, MO** | **5.5 Million Miles** |
| September | **Donald Lewis** | **Wilson Logistics Republic, MO** | **5.7 Million Miles** |
| October | **Steve Shaffer** | **TransLand Hollister, MO** | **4 Million Miles** |
| November | **Ronald Wildehain** | **Gully Transportation Macon, MO** | **2.9 Million Miles** |
| December | **Scott Hurrell** | **D & D Sexton Carthage, MO** | **2.5 Million Miles** |

**Donnie Lester with Tri-State Motor Transit Co.** was presented the "Safety Director of the Year" award for his outstanding leadership in safety related programs designed for the trucking industry, his company and the community. Presenting the plaque and an engraved clock from the Missouri Trucking Association was Jeff Yarnall of CFI.

The Grand Trophy winner for the 2019 Overall Safe Fleet was **Walmart Transportation.**

The "Fleet Safety Contest" is a competition among motor carrier fleets for the best safety record on a fleet-wide basis during the 2018-2019 contest period. Plaques were presented to the winners in each of six divisions of competition by Mike Bohon and Susan Bryant of Great West Casualty Company, sponsor of the fleet safety contest awards.

The winner in the “Local Division – Up to 2 Million Miles” was **Buchheit Logistics, Scott City, MO.** Honorable mention in the local division went to **D &D Sexton, Carthage, MO.**

The winner in the “Local Division – Over 2 Million Miles” was **Old Dominion Freight Line, Thomasville, NC.** Honorable mention in the local division went to **FedEx Freight, Harrison, AR.**

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In the "Over the Road, Up to 2.5 Million Miles" category, the winner was **Opies Transport Inc. MO.** Honorable mention in the Up to 2.5 Million Miles catego ry went to **Callaway Carriers, Kingdom City, MO.**

In the "Over the Road, 2.5 to 5 Million Miles" category, the winner was **Wilson Logistics, Springfield, MO.** Honorable mention in the 2.5 to 5 Million Miles category went to **D & D Sexton Inc., Carthage, MO.**

In the "Over the Road, 5 to 15 Million Miles" category, the plaque winner was **American Central Transport, Kansas City, MO** ; honorable mention in this category went to **Jack Cooper Transport Company, Kansas City, MO.**

In the "Over the Road, Over 15 Million Miles" category, the plaque winner was **Walmart Transportation, St. James, MO.**; honorable mention in this category went to **TransLand, Springfield, MO.**

The “Overall Safe Fleet” winner was Walmart Transportation, St. James, MO

This year the Association added a new award for companies that have went a 12-month full cycle without a single accident.

The following four companies had zero accidents in the “Over the Road up to 2.5 Million Miles”, **Convoy of Hope - Springfield, MO, Callaway Carriers Inc. – Kingdom City, Dino’s Trucking Inc. – St. Louis, MO, and Opies Transport Inc. – Eldon, MO.**

The following two companies had zero accidents in the “Over the Road up to 2.5 – 5 Million Miles”, **D & D Sexton – Carthage, MO,** and **Wilson Logistics, Springfield, MO.**

The following two companies had zero accidents in the “Local up to 2 Million Miles”, **Wilson Logistics - Springfield, MO,** and **TransLand – Springfield, MO.**

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3/5/20